

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below. All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged.

1.(Original): A method for updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an attachment;
opening the attachment to the e-mail; and
writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer.

2.(Original): A method as in claim 1, wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and

wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

3.(Original): A method as in claim 1, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

4.(Original): A method as in claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

determining an operating system type for the computer; and
generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

5.(Original): A method as in claim 4, wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

6.(Original): A method as in claim 5, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

7.(Currently amended): A method as in claim ~~7~~ 5, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

8.(Original): A method as in claim 5, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

9.(Original). A method for providing a user's client computer with configuration settings, the method comprising the steps of:

specifying a location name for the user's client computer;

specifying location settings corresponding to the location name;

creating an e-mail addressed to the user having the location settings encoded in an attachment; and

sending the e-mail to the user.

10.(Original): A method as in claim 9, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

11.(Original): A method as in claim 10, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

12.(Original): A method as in claim 10, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

13.(Original): A method as in claim 10, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

14.(Original): A computer readable storage medium, comprising:

computer readable program code embodied on said computer readable storage medium, said computer readable program code for programming a computer to perform a method for a updating a configuration specification of a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an e-mail from an administrator containing location settings encoded in an attachment;

opening the attachment to the e-mail; and

writing location values corresponding to the location settings encoded in the attachment into the configuration specification of the computer.

15.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 14, wherein the e-mail includes a designation of a location name corresponding to the configuration specification; and

wherein the configuration specification of the computer corresponds to the location name.

16.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 14, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

17.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as claim 16, the method further comprising the steps of:

determining an operating system type for the computer; and
generating the location values by interpreting the location settings for the operating system type for the computer.

18.(Currently amended): A computer readable storage medium as in claim ~~19~~ 17, wherein the interpreting step is performed by referring to program logic which translates the location settings into location values as a function of the operating system type for the computer.

19.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 18, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

20.(Currently amended): A computer readable storage medium as in claim ~~20~~ 18, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

21.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 18, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.

22.(Original): A computer readable storage medium, comprising:

computer readable program code embodied on said computer readable storage medium, said computer readable program code for programming a computer to perform a method for providing a user's client computer with configuration settings, the method comprising the steps of:

specifying a location name for the user's client computer;

specifying location settings corresponding to the location name;

creating an e-mail addressed to the user having the location settings encoded in an attachment; and

sending the e-mail to the user.

23.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 22, wherein the location settings are generically defined so as to apply to a variety of operating systems.

24.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify internet settings.

25.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify an internet protocol address, a domain name server configuration, a gateway, and a WINS configuration.

26.(Original): A computer readable storage medium as in claim 23, wherein the location settings specify dialing settings or local area network settings.